

Message Text

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ACTION PA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 SP-02 INR-10

OES-07 A-01 SSO-00 OPR-02 /050 W

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R 171737Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6609

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 2113

USIA FOR PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE IOP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY), PGOV, BR, US, ENGR

SUBJECT: BRIEFING MATERIALS FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT TO BRAZIL:

PRESS GUIDANCE -- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON NUCLEAR ISSUE

REF: (A) 77 BRASILIA 8636, (B) BRASILIA 1597

1. FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL PRESS QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTED REPLIES
BEING PROVIDED TO SUPPLEMENT REFTELS IN VIEW NUCLEAR AREA
DEVELOPMENTS DURING PRESIDENT GEISEL'S TRIP TO FRG:

QUESTION 16 (TO BE ADDED): DO YOU CONSIDER THE ADDITIONAL
AGREEMENTS IN THE NUCLEAR AREA SIGNED DURING PRESIDENT GEISEL'S
VISIT TO THE FRG TO BE DETRIMENTAL TO US INTEREST?

A. NO. WE FULLY UNDERSTAND BRAZIL'S INTEREST IN UTILIZING
THE LARGE THORIUM RESERVES KNOWN TO EXIST HERE, AND IN
DEVELOPING THE TECHNOLOGY FOR USING THIS NATURAL RESOURCE
TO BEST ADVANTAGE. WITH URANIUM INCREASING IN PRICE,
IT MAKES SENSE TO EXAMINE OTHER ALTERNATIVES.

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QUESTION 17 (TO BE ADDED): THERE HAVE BEEN
SUGGESTIONS IN THE PRESS THAT BRAZIL WILL NOT RE-
NEGOTIATE ITS AGREEMENT FOR NUCLEAR COOPERATION
WITH THE USG. WHAT EFFECT WILL THIS HAVE?

A. THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION ACT REQUIRES THAT
ALL AGREEMENTS FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE US AND OTHER

COUNTRIES BE RENEGOTIATED TO INCLUDE FULL-SCOPE SAFE-GUARDS BY MARCH 1980. FOR ANY COUNTRY TO DECLINE TO DO THIS WOULD PLACE SERIOUS CONSTRAINTS ON THE ABILITY OF THE USG TO COOPERATE WITH THAT COUNTRY ON PEACEFUL NUCLEAR PROGRAMS. I BELIEVE THAT MOST NATIONS RECOGNIZE THE VALUABLE TECHNOLOGICAL CONTRIBUTIONS THAT WE CAN MAKE TO THEIR PEACEFUL NUCLEAR PROGRAMS AND WOULD NOT WISH TO ELIMINATE BY THEIR OWN ACTIONS THE OPTION OF COOPERATION WITH US IN THIS AREA.

2. FIRST SENTENCE OF SUGGESTED REPLY TO NEW QUESTION 13 (PROVIDED REFTEL B) SHOULD BE CHANGED TO REFLECT NRC APPROVAL OF EXPORT OF ANGRA-1 INITIAL FUEL LOAD ON MARCH 10. APPROVAL FOR EXPORT OF RESEARCH REACTOR FUEL IS STILL PENDING.
JOHNSON

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NNN

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